

## 12.525 USE OF QUADRANTS/RESPONSE TO RECENTLY COMMITTED OFFENSES

### ***References:***

Procedure 12.136 - Uniform Financial Institution  
Robbery Alarm Response  
Procedure 12.145 - Critical Incident Response Plan  
Police Communications Section Manual of Standard  
Operating Procedures - 6.F.2  
Manual of Rules and Regulations - 4.02  
Standards Manual - 81.2.5

### ***Definition:***

Quadrant - a method of dividing a crime search area into four geographical zones surrounding a crime scene or suspect's last known location. Police patrol units are then assigned to each zone to conduct a thorough search for a suspect.

### ***Purpose:***

To provide for the safe and rapid apprehension of offenders following a serious criminal offense.

### ***Policy:***

Following the commission of a serious crime, officers will immediately respond to the scene to conduct a preliminary investigation. If the offender is at large officers will relay pertinent information concerning the crime and the offender to Police Communications Section. A police supervisor will take command of the investigation and determine if a quadrant is warranted.

### ***Procedure:***

A. Police Communications Section (PCS) will:

1. Upon receiving notice of a serious crime, either in progress or recently committed; or if a felony suspect is in a certain area,
  - a. Hold the caller on the telephone in order to secure descriptions, type of offense, and manner and direction of escape.
  - b. Immediately broadcast a description citywide.

- 1) An All County broadcast (ACB) will also be placed if a vehicle is involved, or if the offense is near a jurisdictional boundary.

- c. Immediately dispatch two one-officer cars or one two-officer car.
- d. Notify a district supervisor of the situation and car(s) dispatched.
- e. Ascertain from the district supervisor if a quadrant will be utilized.

- 1) If dispatching additional cars, specify the quadrant position of each car.

B. Dispatched Unit Responsibilities:

1. Immediately respond to the scene.
2. The first car on the scene will obtain complete information as to type of crime, description of suspects, manner and direction of escape, and other pertinent data.
  - a. Relay the information to PCS as soon as possible.
  - b. If the suspect(s) have escaped, the second car will assist the first officer in securing the crime scene and keeping all witnesses available for questioning.
3. Witnesses may be taken on a tour of the area in a police vehicle.
  - a. The car containing the witnesses shall relay this information to PCS via radio.
4. In the absence of a supervisor the first officer on the scene will assume command of the investigation.

C. District Supervisor will:

1. Respond to the scene, take command of the investigation, and establish, maintain or cancel the quadrant based on information obtained.

- a. A supervisor need not respond if it has been determined by responding officer that the incident is unfounded.
  - b. Factors to be considered when deciding to establish or maintain a quadrant include:
    - 1) The type of offense.
    - 2) The time of the offense (i.e. crime in progress, just occurred, or if a significant amount of time has elapsed).
    - 3) Suspect on or near the scene.
    - 4) Descriptions of suspect or suspect's vehicle if one was known to be used.
  - 2. If two quadrants occur simultaneously in one district, the district supervisor will determine if one quadrant will take priority, if both will be maintained, or if one can be switched to Channel Eight.
- D. Cancellation of Quadrant:
- 1. The quadrant will be terminated when:
    - a. All suspects have been apprehended.
    - b. The O.I.C. of the quadrant feels that the quadrant is no longer necessary.
      - 1) Normally, the quadrant should be canceled within 20 minutes, except when circumstances merit a longer time period. These circumstances include a search with a high probability of a capture and a search for an offender who presents a high risk of danger to the public.
  - 2. Quadrants will be terminated through the use of:
    - a. "Signal 88" - if no apprehension has been made.
    - b. "Signal 89" - if cancellation is due to an apprehension.